

# ABERCARN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND

### PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1962.

### Councillors:

Chairman	-	- Cour	ncillor J. D. Rees, J.P.
Vice-Chair	man -	- Cou	ncillor W. C. H. Ford.
Councillor ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	H. J. Reed. B. Edwards. I. Thompson. A. Knott. I. James. G. Williams. B. J. Lewis. J. Lurvey.	,, ,, ,, ,,	or F. Edwards, B.E.M., J.P. A. Barton. J. Strange. H. Ellis Williams. H. Burris. S. Harris. F. Knight. O. Thorne.
		"	O. I norne.
		Officers:	
Treasurer Medical C Engineer	Solicitor - & Chief Finan Officer of Healt & Surveyor	cial Officer h	
Public He	alth Inspector		- Lloyd G. Hale.
Housing E	Engineer -		- P. E. Davies.
Deputy Cl	lerk -		- C. Knight.



Public Health Department,

Council Offices,

Abercarn, Mon.

1962.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE

ABERCARN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, AND GENTLEMEN,

l have once again the pleasure of submitting the Annual Report for the year ending December, 1962

Births exceeded deaths by some 103. A breakdown of the causes of death show that 29 persons died from Bronchitis, the same figure as in 1961.

The cancer deaths showed a remarkable fall, from 36 in 1961 to 14 in 1962. While pneumonia accounted for some 24 deaths. Although later on in the report I have commented on pneumonia and its anticipated decline as a killer disease.

Deaths from coronary disease number 29, while other heart diseases or conditions resulte in a further 36 deaths.

The tremendous research and quite startling progress made in heart surgery will undoubtedly result in this cause of death being dramatically reduced in the next decade or so.

The total of Notifiable Infectious Diseases for the year must have reached an all time low figure of 19, of which 13 were new cases of Tuberculosis.

The Summary of Tuberculosis Cases remaining on register is set out for your information in the report. These figures show a net reduction of some 8 cases in total.

Area of Abercarn Urban Distric	t Council		9,543 acres						
Population-Registrar-General's	Estimate		19,400						
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			5,834						
Number of Houses owned by th	ne Council	l	1,690						
Rateable Value	• •••	1960	£137,354						
		1961	£141,912						
		1962/63	£353,579						
Product of Penny Rate	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	1959/60	£511/0/0						
		1960/61	£517/0/0						
		1961/62	£529/0/0						
		1962/63	£1,375/0/0						
VITAL STATISTICS.									
Birt	hs.								
	1960	1961	1962						
Males	170	186	152						
Females	171	188	152						
		<del></del>							
	341	374	304						
		<del></del>							
Birth Rate of 1,000 of the	Populatio	n	15.67						
•									
Stillb	irths.								
	1960	1961	1962						
Stillbirth rate of 1,000 of									
the Population	.47	.36	.61						
DEA	THS.								
	1960	1961	1962						
Males	79	92	114						
Females	95	109	87						

					1962.
Live B	irths .				. 304
		per 1,000			
Still-bir		•••			10
		er 1,000 l			
		rate per			_
tota					1.6 40
		rate per			
					. 15.36
		four week			
Death 1	rate per	1,000 pop	ulation		. 10.36
	INFA	NTILE N	MORTA	LITY.	
er of D	eaths un	der One	Year:		
			1960	1961	1962
Boys	•••		. 5	4	3
Girls	•••	•••	. 2	8	2
			_	_	_
			7	12	5
1f(*1	N4 1	n D .		_	16.4
infantile	e Mortal:	ity Kate	• • •		16.4

Numb

"The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, But in ourselves, that we are underlings."

-J. Caesar.

### CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES.

						weeks to one year.
All Causes				2	Ţi.	2
Measles	•••			_	_	_
Diphtheria	•••		•••		_	
Whooping	Cough			_	_	_
lnfluenza	•••			_	_	_
Cerebral Sp	oinal Feve	r			_	
Cancer (Ma	alignant D	isease)		_	_	
Syphilis				_		_
Tuberculos	is		•••		_	_
Bronchitis	•••			_	_	
Pneumonia	(All Form	ns)		_	_	i
Other Resp	oiratory D	iseases		1	_	_
Diarrhoea				_		
Congenital	Debility			_	_	
Premature	Births			_	_	
Digestive I	Diseases					_
Violence					_	_
Other Caus	es	•••	•••	Ī	1	1
			-	<del></del>		
				2		2

### ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISEASES—DEATHS.

Bronchitis Pneumonia Other Forms	•••	 		1960 21 5	1961 14 11 4	1962 24 5
Other Torms	Total	•••	•••	30	29	29

#### CANCER DEATHS.

				1960	1961	1962
Males				16	18	10
Females		•••	•••	14	18	4
	Tota	al		30	36	14

#### Infectious Diseases.

The Principal Notifiable Diseases are Smallpox, Typhoid, Typhus, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Puerperal Fever, Opthalmia Neonatorum, and Continued Fever.

There were no deaths from the Principal Notifiable Diseases during 1962.

#### Pneumonia.

"Let me have men about me that are fat; Sleek-headed men and such as sleep O nights, Yond Cassius has a lean and hungry look, He thinks too much. Such men are dangerous."

We know Cassius did not die of pneumonia, but probably Caesar's fat friends did.

It is of some interest to observe that the great improvement in the medical picture of pneumonia has radically altered the economic effects of the disease. The number of premature deaths has fallen considerably and incapacity by the illness is substantially reduced from twenty-five thousand per million to around six thousand deaths currently. A saving of some nineteen thousand lives.

Contrary to popular belief the effect of modern medicine is not simply to increase the economic burden of an aged population. The increased proportion of dependants due to reduced pneumonia mortality results mainly from a greater number surviving in later life as well as in childhood.

"You all did love him once, not without cause. What cause withholds you now."

The improvement has resulted from the development of modern drugs, first the sulphonamides, M & B and then anti-biotics, Penicillin and others of the group.

Research into anti-biotic drugs against virus infections, which cause Influenza, Colds and Broncho-pneumonia have so far been unsuccessful. However, a promising anti-virus drug has been develoed recently and at the moment is on trial.

I have no doubt that the next decade will see a marked improvement in this side of preventative medicine.

#### CAUSES OF DEATH, 1962.

19	61.			196	2.
M.	F.			M.	F.
109	92	ALL CAUSES		114	87
		Tuberculosis—Respiratory System		1	1
		Tuberculosis—Other Forms		_	_
		Syphillitic Diseases		_	_
		Diphtheria		_	_
		Whooping Cough	•••	_	_
		Meningococcal Infections	• • •	_	_
		Acute Poliomyelitis	• • •	_	_
		Measles	•••	_	_
		Other infective and Parasitic Diseases	• • •	- 1	—
		Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach		4	2
		Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus		6	1
		Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus		—	—
		Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	•••	—	1
		Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplas	sms	8	6
		Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	• • •	3	_
		Diabetes		—	2
		Vascular Lesions of Nervous System		110	17
		Coronary Disease, Angina		18	11
		Hypertension of Heart Disease	•••	2	3
		Other Heart Disease		14	17
		Other Circulatory Disease		3	3

## "The Favourite has no Friends." - Gray.

Influenza	•••			•••	•••	_	_
Pneumonia			•••	•••	•••	2	3
Bronchitis	•••			•••	•••	19	5
Other Disease of	Resp	iratory	Syste	em		3	1
Ulcer of Stomach	and	Duode	num	•••	•••	4	
Gastritis, Enteriti	is and	Diarr	hoea	•••		_	_
Nephritis and Ne	ephros	sis			•••	2	1
Hyper-plasia of l				•••		2	
Pregnancy, Chile			tion	•••	•••	_	
Congenital Malfo	ormati	ons				2	_
Other Defined ar	nd III-	define	d Dise	eases		5	10
Motor Vehicle A	ccide	nts		•••	•••		_
All other Accide	nts				•••	3	- 1
Suicide		•••	•••	•••	•••	11	2
Homocide and C	perati	ions of	War			_	_

# ANALYSIS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS.

Diseases.	Under 1	1-2	2—3	3-4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15-20	20—35	35—45	45—65	enld 69	Total
Scarlet Fever .	_	_	_	_	_	1	_	_	_	_	_	_	1
Diphtheria	_		_	_	_	_	_			_	_	_	
Measles	1	1	_	1	1	1	_	_		_	_	_	5
Erysipelas	_	_	_	_	_		_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Whooping													
Cough	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Puerperal													
Pyrexia	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Ophthalmia													
Neonatorum	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Dysentery	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Pneumonia	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_		_	_	_
Total	1	1		1	1	2	_	_	_	_	_	_	6

Total Number of Infectious Diseases in Age Groups ... 6

"Oh come with old Khayyam, and leave the wise to talk."
—Omar Khayyam.

# NUMBER OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE PAST FOUR YEARS.

			1959	1960	1961	1962
Scarlet Fever			2	6	_	1
Dysentery			_	117	2	
Diphtheria			_		_	_
Cerebral Spinal F	ever		<u>''</u>	_	_	_
Pneumonia			12	_		_
Poliomyelitis				_	1	_
Meningitis			1,	_	_	_
Tuberculosis			14	12	12	13
Whooping Cough			_	4	2	_
Erysipelas				_	_	_
Ophthalmia Neon	atorum	ı	_	_	_	_
Puerperal Pyrexia				_	_	_
Food Poisoning			16	2	6	_
Paratyphoid Feve	r		_ =	- 1-	_	_
Measles			17	1	469	5
			62	142	492	19

#### Measles.

Over the past 15 years some 2,784 cases of Measles have been notified to my Office, and I am of the opinion that this large number is not all the cases that have occurred during this time. Especially, in the years of heavy epidemics, such as occurred in 1951, when a total of 526 cases were notified and 10 years later in 1961, when the figures showed 469 cases notified.

This resulted in the over-burdening of the General Practitioner, and it is only fair to assume that many cases occurred and were not notified to the department.

"And some that smile have in their hearts, I fear,

Millions of mischiefs."

—J. Caesar.

This infectious disease affecting children in the lower age groups, that is to say, one year to the age of ten years, could possibly bring complications in its wake. It is therefore of some interest to learn that a Measles Vaccine is now being tested to bring about the total elimination of this disease. It is to be hoped that in a short period of time, the vaccine will be readily available, in order that the children may be vaccinated in the various County Council Clinics in the Urban Area, and in the Schools as the case may be.

### IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

This service continues to be carried out by the County Council.

There were no reported cases of Diphtheria during the year 1962. If such cases are notified, isolation facilities exist at Bedwellty and Alt-yr-yn Hospitals.

Children under five years of age are innoculated by Assistant Medical Officers from the County Council's Public Health Department at the District Clinics. School children by the Area Medical Officer at the Schools.

### Immunisation in relation to Child Population.

Number of children at 31st December who had completed a course of Immunisation—at any time since 1st January, 1937:—

					injection	
regard	ds A				cing injec	tion
		as	rega	ards <b>E</b>	3).	

	as regards $\mathbf{B}$ ).						
	Under 1 yr.	1-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	Total.			
A. Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the Authority's area (including temporary residents during the six months ended 31st December, 1962.	55	195	68	318			
B. Number of children who received a secondary (reinforcing) injection (i.e., subsequently to primary immunisation at an earlier age) during the six months ended 31st December, 1962).	4	154	190	348			

### Vaccination—Smallpox.

Vaccination for the year totalled ... 8,126

The following table is submitted for your information: -

# (1) Number of Persons Vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during the period.

Age at date of vaccination	Uı	nder 1	1—2	2—4	5—14	15 or over	Total
Number vaccinated		96	214	557	2,233	3,735	6,835
Number re-vaccinated	•••	_	-	18	258	1,015	1,291

(2) Number of Cases Specially Reported during Period (Age Groups as above).

(a) Generalised
Vaccinia ... — — — — —

(b) Post-vaccinal
Encephalomyelitis ... — — — — — —

### Immunisation—Whooping Cough.

Age at Date of

Immunisation for the year totalled ... 255

The following table is submitted for your information:—

15 or

Immunisation.	1	1—2	2—4	5—14	Over	Total
Number of Children who have completed a primary course (normally 3 injections) of pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) in the Authority's area during the year ended 31st December 1962	55	122	55	23	Nil	255

Under

### INFANT WELFARE CENTRE ATTENDANCES.

Attendances at the Infant Welfare Centres for the year 1962 are set out in the following table for your information:

Centre. Cwmcarn Newbridge Hafodyrynys Pantside	Under	1. 1960.	1959	1954-58.
	85	69	71	171
	116	102	115	41
	66	60	61	69
	29	26	7	12
	296	257	254	293

"He was a scholar, and a ripe and good one.

Exceeding wise, fair spoken and persuading.

Lofty and sour, to them that loved him not,

But to those that sought him, sweet as Summer."

			Over 1	Over 2	
Centre.	Į	Jnder 1	Under 2	Under 5	Total
Cwmcarn		1,267	461	589	2,417
Newbridge	• • •	1,622	381	260	2,241
Hafodyrynys		787	300	336	1,423
Pantside		185	97	104	444
	-				
		3,861	1,239	1,289	6,525
Attendances at	the	Cwmca	arn Centre	•	2,417
Attendances at					2,241
Attendances at					1,423
Attendances at	the	Pantsio	de Centre	•••	444
Total Atte	ndar	nces for	the year	1962	6,525

### SUMMARY OF TUBERCULOSIS CASES.

			1	Von-	
	Pulr	nonary	Puln	nonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total
Total Cases on Registe	er				010
31-12-61	90	88	15	17	210
New Cases, 1962	8	5	_	_	13
Deaths	1	10			2
Recovered	5	4	_	_	9
Removed for other					_
Reasons	2	4	_	2	8
Removed from District .	1	1		_	2
10000	_			_	
Total Cases on Registe	er				
31-12-62 ·	89	83	15	15	202
J1-12-02		_	_	_	

### Annual Return of Food Poisoning Out-Breaks in the Area of the Abercarn Urban District Council for the 1st January, 1962, to 31st December, 1962.

In accordance with the Circular 46/49 (Wales) dated 24th May, 1949, Returns as per Memo. 188/MED. (Appendix I) are submitted herewith.

### Annual Return of Food Poisoning Notifications (corrected).

Local Authority Abercarn Urban District Council, year 1st January, 1962, to 31st December, 1962.

### (2nd) Food Poisoning Notification Corrected Return to R.G.

1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Total
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

### (3rd) Outbreaks due to identified Agents.

Total Outbreaks	Nil	Total Cases	Nil

### (3rd A) Outbreaks due to Salmonella Organisms: Nil

### (4th) Outbreaks of Undiscovered Cause.

Total	Outbreaks	Nil	Total Cases .	Nil
		*** * ***	rotar cases.	

### (5th) Outbreaks.

Single Cases	•••	 •••	Nil
Agent Identified		 	Nil
Unknown Cases		 	Nil

# FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS. SUMMARY OF DETAILS.

It is with pleasure that I have to report that no cases of Food Poisoning occurred during the year in the Urban Area. This happy state of affairs has been largely brought about by the rigid implimentation of the Food Hygiene Provisions in all food shops in the Urban Area. The pre-packing of almost all food sold and displayed in attractive wrappings. Thus preventing contamination.

The increasing awareness of the general public not to accept any food offered to them.

Increased competition in the food shops and super-markets.

The Hygiene Exhibitions promoted and lectures given by my Public Health Inspector in his free time.

All these conditions have been most helpful. Although I must echo a note of warning here in certain trends in the food stores which I am afraid may react on the general public adversely, and bring food poisoning in its wake.

Up to the present time my Public Health Inspector spends a certain amount of his time condemning food in all types of shops. These condemnation lists are submitted to the Health Committee monthly and again are included in this report.

However, I am now informed by my Public Health Inspector that there is a tendency for the wholesalers to agree with the owners of shops to accept cases of tin food and make allowances of up to 1½% on all tin goods sold.

It seems that any tins over 3 in 200 that ought to be condemned, may well not be condemned as the loss will fall directly on the owner/owners of the shop/shops in question.

This temptation should never exist. Shop owners and certainly managers of all food shops should remember their duty under Section 8 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, where it is an offence to offer or sell or expose for sale any food intended for but unfit for human consumption.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE.

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. H. V. M. Jones,, M.B. (Lon.), D.P.H.(Liv.).

Public Health Inspector:

Lloyd G. Hale, M.P.H.I.A., M.R.S.H.

### Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

These services are maintained by the County Council at Cwmcarn, Abercarn, Newbridge, Pantside, Hafodyrynys and Trinant.

Isolation Hospitals.

There are no Isolation Hospitals in the Council's Area, but arrangements have been made for Infectious Diseases cases to be admitted to the Bedwellty Isolation Hospital, Aberbargoed, and Allt-yr-yn Hospital, Newport.

### Immunisation against Diphtheria.

It is now the duty of the County Council to administer this service. This duty is performed by their Area Medical Officers.

### Ambulance Service.

Under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the County Council now administers the Ambulance Service.

### Bacteriological Examination of Pathological Specimens.

Samples of Milk, Ice-cream, Water and samples from the Council's Swimming Baths were submitted to the Laboratory at the County Hall for examination during the year.

### Water Supplies,

"Knowledge is the antidote to fear caused by ignorance."

Much has been written and more has been said in regard to the advisability of adding Fluoride to our water supplies.

Skilful propagandists or persons who hold sincere views expressing concern against the fluoridation of water are misinformed.

The objections against adding fluoride to our water supplies are briefly as follows:—

- (1) Delayed effects on health, especially in old people.
- (2) Symptoms of chronic fluorine poisoning.
- (3) Fluoridation causes mongolism.
- (4) The effect of fluorine on the Thyroid Gland (i.e., increase of goitre in the neck).
- (5) Fluorides are used as rat poison and pesticides.

- (6) Fluoridation is mass medication, all these and many other objections have been carefully looked into and all the points raised have been debunked one by one. The British Dental Association supports the idea of fluoridation of water supplies.
  - Further the Medical Standing Advisory Committee for England and Wales together with the Central Health Services Council and last but not least the Minister of Health through his advisers, all support the idea of the fluoridation of water supplies.
  - In order that the Council may have the fullest information on this vexed problem, I enclose a pamphlet by the British Dental Association and a booklet issued by the Oral Hygiene Service. In view of the fact that all these important bodies have given their blessing to the Fluoridation of our water supplies. It is to be hoped that the Council will decide in favour of this measure, in accordance with my previous recommendation.

The Council is a constituent Authority of the Abertillery and District Water Board. The chief supply is obtained from Grwyne-Fawr Reservoir situated in the Black Mountains, Breconshire, subsidiary supplies are obtained from local sources. The water is of good quality and large supplementary quantities were obtained from Llanover Scheme. The water is sampled by the Board and from time to time by the Local Authority (who submitted samples for bacteriological examination). Where necessary the supplies were chlorinated by the Board's Officials.

Number of houses with piped supply	5,834
Number of houses supplied from wells, springs, (estimated)	12
Approximate population, supplied from Public Water Mains direct to houses	19,352

During the year inspections were made of water Supplies and systems generally, where the pressure was reported to be low. Upon inspection lt was found that in almost all cases the corrosion of pipes was responsible for inadequate supplies for

all domestic purposes. In such cases, Informal Notices and where necessary Statutory Notices under Section 138 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as amended by Section 30 of the Water Act, 1945, were served with complete success.

#### Sewers and Drains.

The Council is a constituent Member of the Western Valley Sewcrage Board. The Council's subsidiary sewers are connected to the Main Trunk Sewer.

### Scavenging.

Scavenging is carried out by direct labour twice weekly. The tip is situated at Fields Park, and another at the northern end of the District at Trinant.

### Refuse Disposal.

Regular inspections in connection with Rodent Control and Fly Breeding have been carried out, and extensive treatments for the elimination of rodents and flies are continually being undertaken.

### River Pollution Act, 1951.

During the year under review some concern was expressed at the possibility of the storm water culvert at Newbridge, known as Torlais Stream, being contaminated with sewage.

Samples of storm water were taken at various points along the length of this culvert and part open brook, and in certain instances duplicate samples were taken. All were submitted to the Public Analyst for his report. The thirteen samples taken showed only mild pollution and at the lower end of the culvert, the surface water entering caused dilution to take place and self purification.

The reports stated that this pollution was insignificant to the condition of the river, which is heavily polluted.

# Chemical Sampling of a new installed Water Supply System at Cil-lon-ydd Farm, Newbridge.

Three samples of this untreated water used for all domestic purposes were submitted to the Public Analyst for his report.

The final report showed that from a chemical standpoint this water was suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

# Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplies, Milk and Ice-Cream.

Thirteen samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination; all proved satisfactory. A similar number of ice-cream samples were submitted, eleven of which were placed in Grade I, while the remainder were placed in Grade II.

Thirty-three samples of milk taken at the school canteens, on the roadside, and in the process of being delivered, were submitted for bacteriological examination. Thirty-two of these samples were satisfactory, the outstanding sample was unsatisfactory at the time of sampling. Re-sampling showed this milk to be up to the standard.

#### Rainfall.

The table shows the monthly rainfall, also the day of the month when the greatest fall occurred.

Month.	Rainfall	Greatest fall in 24 hours in inches.		No. of days with 0.01 ins.
WIOIIIII.		- III menes.	Date.	- Of more.
January	6.02	1.54	10- 1-62	15
February	1.22	0.30	6- 2-62	2 9
March	2.81	0.85	8- 3-62	2 7
April	3.72	0.70	2- 4-62	12
May	3.24	0.90	20- 5-62	13
June	0.65	0.15	17/19- 6-62	6
July	2.07	0.37	21- 7-62	10
August	4.48	1.60	14- 8-62	19
September	8.39	2.20	28- 9-62	11
October	1.10	0.40	31-10-62	5
November	3.74	0.75	16-11-62	17
December	2.05	0.70	9-12-62	8
Total	39.49	2.20	28- 9-62	132

Rainfall is recorded at Abercarn Cemetery. Height above Sea Level: 539.9 feet.

### PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

"Man is born to trouble, as the sparks fly upwards.

The philosopher, Goethe, once said:

"Everything that is wise has already been said; We can only try to say it once again."

What can one say in relation to housing and its problem that has not already been said.

During the year under review the Council built twenty-two houses, while a further eleven were built by private enterprise. On the face of it, not a particularly impressing record. Nevertheless, we have a record for house building which stands fourth highest in the County, irrespective of figures issued by the

Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Against economic giants like Newport Borough and Cwmbran Development Corporation. These Authorities continue to attract the family man away from the Valleys, with the diversity of industrial posts and jobs on offer, leaving us with an ageing population and still an acute housing problem of housing the aged.

It is therefore pleasing to note that the Council is now giving serious attention to the problem, in deciding to build suitable dwellings at Cwmcarn, Abercarn and Pantside for the aged.

The pruning of the housing application list was a very necessary criteria in formulating future housing needs. The removal of dormant applicants from the housing list should prevent the Council from overbuilding.

As you will recollect a case has been made out, by this pruning, for a further 450 housing units of all sizes. The acquisition of some twenty-three acres of ground at the Pant will enable the Authority to meet its housing needs during the next five years.

### Demolitions and Clearance Areas.

Since the relevant sections under the Housing Act, 1936, and the later Housing Act, 1957, have been put into practice some 245 houses have been demolished or closed or have undertakings placed upon them in the last ten years. Most of the properties concerned I regard, with respect, as rubbish. Cottages that had long outlived their usefulness. This observation was borne out by the attitude of the owners, where in no single case was the making of a Demolition or Closing Order tested in the Courts.

The Authority will be aware that there still remains property that is sub-standard and unfit for human habitation as under Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1957. I have no doubt that these properties will be dealt with under the appropriate Sections within the meaning of the Housing Act, 1957, at the proper time.

Members will recollect that in dealing with these properties the owners may allow Demolition Orders to be made, but demolition not enforced, as new proposed owners may come along with schemes under Section 24 for the improvement of these properties, thsu making much greater use of the improvement Section, Section 24 of the Housing Act, 1957. It is anticipated that the new proposed owners of this type of property will come from the younger generation, enabling them to completely restore these properties from a repair point of view, and applying for Grant Aid under the appropriate Acts.

### Improvement Grants.

Everyone in Local Government will be pleased at the Minister's of Housing and Local Government, promise to give Local Authorities powers to compel owners in suitable cases to improve rented properties. Improvement applications received from 1949 to 1959 were disappointingly small in number.

# The Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, and Housing and House Purchase Act, 1959.

Gave powers to Local Authorities to approve Standard Grants for modernising houses, in existing rooms. These provisions quickly became well known and the number of applications received showed the value of such powers. Power of compulsion to make owners (in suitable cases) improve rented property is the next logical step.

Perhaps the biggest single landlords in the Urban Area are the National Coal Board. Excepting, of course, the Local Authrity. Yet since the advent of the Housing Act, 1949, the National Coal Board has only recently made eight applications to modernise properties in the Urban Area under their control. Perhaps the Housing Department of the National Coal Board are satisfied that having now provided the miners with pit-head baths, the miners' families can continue to bath in front of the fire as they have done for generations. It is disappointing, to say the least, that the National Coal Board has not taken advantage to improve more of their properties. It is easily possible for the Board to present schemes for whole streets in accordance with ministerial policy.

If the Public Health Act, of 1875, gave Local Authorities powers to prevent people being dirty, only new powers will enable persons to keep clean.

The number of Improvement Grants dealt with during the year 1962 are set out as follows:—

Number of Standard Grants		18
Number of other Improvement Grants		18
Amount of Standard Grants		£2,575
Amount of other Improvement Grants		£6,808
Number of Improvement Loans		7
Amount of Improvement Loans		£2,780
Bringing the total to date of	•••	241

We can perhaps conclude by saying:-

### Proceedings taken under the Public Health Act, 1936.

During the year seven Prosecutions were successfully taken against owners of property for the non-compliance with Notices served under Section 93 of the above Act.

All the properties have now been repaired.

A breakdown of the inspections made showed that the following defects were in being:—

	1962	2.
Exterior.		
Chimney stacks rebuilt or repaired		30
Roofs repaired or renewed		41
Rainwater pipes and eaves gutters renewed	or	
repaired		34
Walls—		
Rebuilt or repaired		24
Rendered for the prevention of dampness		24
External plastering repaired		18
Damp roof courses inserted	•••	6
Outbuildings repaired		3
Obstructive outbuildings demolished		3
Yards, passages, etc., paved or repaired	•••	11



22

<sup>&</sup>quot;We are pessimists, Hobson. But we are a new sort of pessimist. We think we are the sort that will please."

### Interior.

Doors and frames renewed or repa	ired			32
Floors renewed or repaired	•••			51
Floors ventilated				4
Grates or ovens renewed or repaired	d	•••		6
Internal plastering (walls) repaired	or	replast	ered	33
Internal plastering (ceilings) repaire	d or	replast	ered	35
Larders provided	•••	•••	•••	- 1
Larders improved or repaired	•••		•••	9
Staircases repaired	•••	•••	•••	9
Windows and frames renewed or re	epaire	ed	•••	43
Window cords renewed	•••	•••	•••	48
Drainage.				
New drains constructed				25
Drains cleansed	•••			214
Drains reconstructed				9
Drains repaired				52
Drains tested—				
Water				_
Smoke				
Chemical		•••		39
Gullies fixed		•••		12
Inspection chambers provided or re	paire	ed		14
Soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed	or r	epaired	l	10
•	•••		•••	18
Waste water sinks trapped or wast	e pip	es repa	ired	17
Water Closets.				
Water closet buildings repaired				22
Seats, doors renewed or repaired	•••	•••		17
Water closets reconstructed				4
New W.C. pans and traps fixed				23
Flushing apparatus provided				4
Flushing apparatus repaired			•••	3

### Miscellaneous Repairs and Nuisances Abated.

Storage accommodation provided				5
Water supply provided where no			• • •	8
Water taps or pipes repaired or			•••	7
Other repairs and nuisances abat	ed	•••		72
Total				1,029
Housing.				
Number of Dwelling Houses insp	pected			973
Re-inspected		•••		714
Number of premises at which re	pairs an	d impr	ove-	
provements have been carrie	d out			275
Warning Notices				84
Remedied without Notice	•••			168
Statutory Notices served				108
Statutory Notices complied with				106
Statutory Notices not complied v	vith		•••	2
Number of Houses in the Area				5,834
Number of Houses owned by th	e Counc	il		1,690
Number of Dwelling Houses erec			year	
by the Council				22
Number of New Houses erected	ed privat	ely in	the	
year 1962				11
Drainage.				
Drainage stoppages dealt with,	New Dra	inage	con-	
nections, improvements and				300
Disinfections carried out				12
Disinfestations carried out				7
			.1 1	1
The following statement is in the Ministry:—	he form	prescr	1b.ed	by the
1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses du	ring the	year:-	-	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling	houses	inspe	cted	
during the year for housi	ing defe	cts (u	nder	
Public Health and Housing				824
		he nur		824
(b) Number of Inspections ma	ide for t	ne pur	pose	027

	(2) (a) Demolition Orders made	
	(b) Closing Orders made	3
	(3) Undertaking accepted not to re-let for human habitation	_
	(4) Closing Orders revoked after premises have been made fit	1
2.	Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices Number of dwelling houses rendered fit for occupation in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	168 582
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—	
	(a) Proceedings under Sections 9 and 10 of the Housing Act, 1957	_
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repair	46
	(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notice	46
	(a) By Owners	46
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	
	Number of Houses under Circular 2845	_
	(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-	
	(I) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repair	60
	(2) Number of dwelling houses which were ren- dered unfit after service of notice	58
	(a) By Owners	58
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	1
	(c) Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957:—	
	(I) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	

(d) Proceedings under Sec Act, 1957:—	tion 18 of the Housing
rooms in respect o	enements or underground f which Closing Orders the tenements or room ed fit
4. Housing Act, 1957—Part IV	7. Overcrowding.
(a) 1. Number of dwellings	
of the year	
2. Number of families d	welling therein 92
3. Number of persons of	lwelling there in 462
(b) Number of new cases	_
during the year	
Meat and Other Foods.	
A large quantity of tinned	d and other foods were inspected
	ing articles were condemned as
being unfit for human consum	
52 bs. Bacon.	5 Tins Loganberries.
30 lbs. Bacon Ham.	113 Tins Luncheon Meat.
81 Tins Beans.	25 Tins Meat (Various).
9 Tins Beefburgers.	141 Tins Milk.
5 lbs. of Brawn.	24 Tins Minced Beef.
2 Loaves Bread.	8 lbs. Minced Pork.
3 lbs. Butter.	4 Tins Minced Pork. 6 Tins Minced Steak.
4 Packets Butter.	
Carcass of Lamb.	8 Tins Oranges. 68 Tins Peaches.
60 lbs. Cheese.	37 Tins Pears.
8 Chickens.	131 Tins Peas.
3 Chicken Dinners.	9 Pies (Mould).
22 Tins Chapped Ham.	14 Tins Pineapples.
8 lbs. Chopped Pork.	5 Tins Salmon.
10 Tins Chopped Pork. 390 lbs. Cooked Ham.	15 Bottles Sauce.
170 IDS. Cooked Hain.	.5.200000

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ...

18 lbs. Corned Beef.

122 Tins Corned Beef.

10 Tins Cream.

16 Tins Fruit Cocktail.

4 Tins Grapefruit.

3 Tins Ham and Pork.

120 lbs. Jellied Veal.

15 lbs. Liver.

12 lbs. Veal.

30 lbs. Sausage.

13 Tins Savory Steak.

15 Tins of Soup.

10 Sponges.

3 Tins Stew.

6 Tins Strawberries.

28 lbs. Sweets.

63 Tins Tomatoes.

18 lbs. Tongue.

4 Tins Fruit Salad.

"Many do it with better grace, but I do it more naturally."

—King Henry VIII.

### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949. Report for 12 months ended 31st December, 1962.

	Type of Property. Non-Agricultural.				
	(1)	(2)	(8)	(4)	(5)
	Local Authority.	Dwelling Houses including Council Houses.	All other (in- cluding Business Premises).	Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3).	Agricul- tural
I. Number of properties in Loeal Authority's District	4	5,816	188	6,008	42
II. To tal number of properties inspected as a result of notification (See note 3) Number of such properties found to be infested	2	286	23	311	1
by:—  Common Rat: Major Minor Ship Rat: Major Minor House Rat: Major		154 — — — 2	- 3 - -	158 — — — 2	
(See Note 4) Minor  III. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act  Number of such properties found to be infested	4	97 319	16 55	378	10
by:—  Common Rat: Major Minor Ship Rat: Major Minor House Mouse: Major Minor	1 - - 1	24 — — — 30	_ _ _ _ 2	25 — — — 33	
IV. Total number of properties otherwise inspected (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose	_	4	_ `	4	-

		Tvi	pe of Prope	rtv.	
	(1)	(2)	(8)	(4)	(5)
	Local Authority.	Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses.	All other (in- cluding Business Premises).	Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (8).	Agricul- ture.
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat: Major Minor Ship Rat: Major Minor House Mouse: Major			_ _ _	=	 _ _ _
V. Total inspections carried out, including reinspections (To be completed only if figures are readily available.)	_	4 Figur	es not avai	4 lable.	_
VI. Number of infested properties (in sections II, III and IV) treated by the L.A	4	311	76	326	
VII. Total treatments carried out — including re-treatments (To be completed only if figures are readily available). (See note 3).		Figur	es not avail	lable.	
VIII. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:—					
(a) Treatment (b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing	_	_	_	_	_
IX. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act	_	_	_		

	Type of Propery Non-Agricultural					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses including Council Houses	All Other Including Business Premises)	Total of Cols. (1), (2) and (3)	A gricul- tural	
X. Legal Proceedings (See. XII. below)	_	_	_	_	_	
XI. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	_	_			_	

XII. Where legal proceedings have been instituted by the Local Authority brief particulars should be given here:—

None

XIII. Any other points of interest.

None

Two sewer treatments were carried out in February/March and September/October of 1962. The following are the figures:—

		No. of Manholes			Taken ison	
		Treated	Pre-bait	Small	Good	Total
February/March		325	62	41	30	133
September/October	•••	341	38	35	24	97

All individual complaints during the year were dealt with, which entailed several visits by the Rodent Operator to one single reported case.

' 'Tis pleasant sure, to see one's name in print, A book's a book although there is nothing in't."

-The English Bards and Scottish Reviewers.

### Factories and Workshops.

Total number of factories in the Area ... 8
Total number of workshops in the Area ... 22

---30

The factories and workshops are periodically inspected in order that they comply with the Factories Act, 1937.

#### Number of Defects.

Referred No. of to H.M. Prose-

Panticulars		Found	Remedied		r cutions
Want of Cleanliness .		3	3	_	
Want of Ventilation .	٠.	_	_	_	_
Want of Drainage of Floo	rs	_	_		
SANITARY ACCOMMODATION:					
Other Nuisances	٠.			_	
Insufficient	••			1	
Unsuitable or Defective .		3	3		
Not separate for sexes	••				
		6	6	1	

### Licensed Slaughtermen.

Several applications were received and granted by the Council during the year.

H. V. M. JONES, M.B. (London), D.P.H. (Liverpool), Medical Officer of Health.

LLOYD G. HALE, M.P.H.I.A., M.R.S.H.,

Public Health Inspector.





